

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 16 and 17 are pending in the present application, Claims 16 and 17 having been amended, and Claims 14 and 15 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

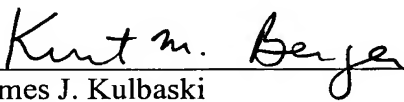
In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 101; and Claims 16 and 17 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 16 and 17. Claims 16 and 17 are amended to remove means-plus-function language. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added and that no new search is required.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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